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CLASSICS

presents

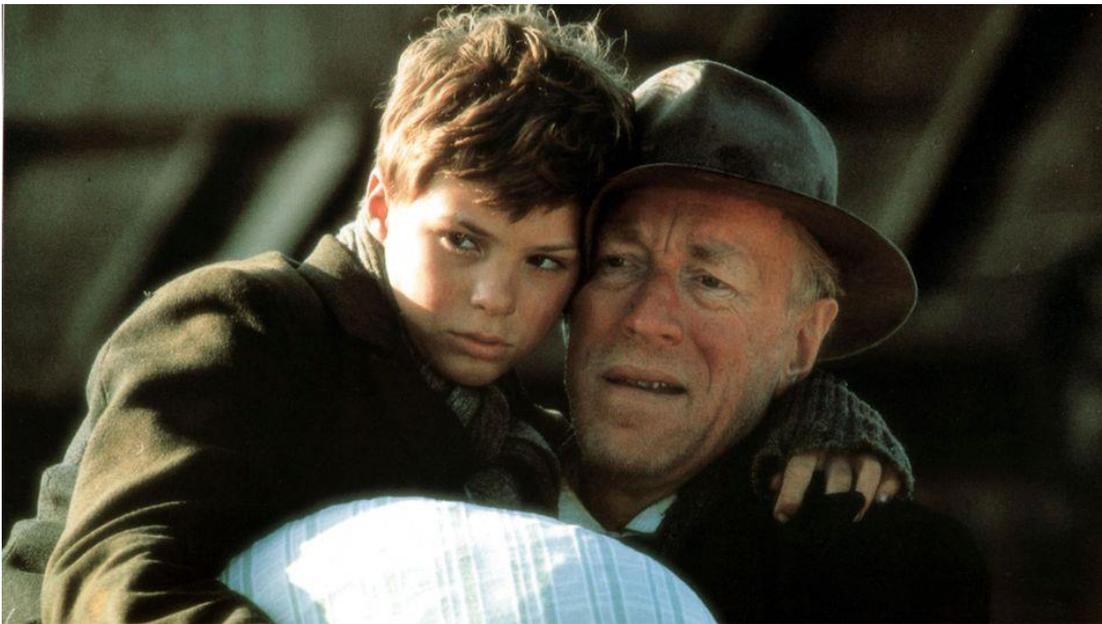
A 30th Anniversary Restoration

PELLE THE CONQUEROR

(Pelle erobreren)

Directed by Bille August

"[T]he film is a towering achievement...an exhilarating experience unlikely to be forgotten." –
Kevin Thomas, **Los Angeles Times**



**Denmark, Sweden / 1987 / Drama / Danish and Swedish with English subtitles
157 min / 1.66: 1 / 2K scan from original 35mm negative**

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Assets:

Official Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wloZ5OYc9RE>

Downloadable hi-res images:

<http://www.filmmovement.com/filmcatalog/index.asp?MerchandiseID=537>

SELECT PRESS

"The von Sydow performance is in a category by itself. It is another highlight in an already extraordinary career, and quite unlike anything that American audiences have seen him do to date." – Vincent Canby, *New York Times*

"Visually speaking, the film is handsome....Then again, perhaps the real secret to PELLE's demographic-crossing appeal is the presence of the great von Sydow..." – A.A. Dowd, *AV Club*

"In Bille August's **PELLE THE CONQUEROR**, Max von Sydow is so astoundingly evocative that he makes your bones ache." – Hal Hinson, *The Washington Post*

"The film is a richness of events....there is not a bad performance in the movie, and the newcomer, Pelle Hvenegaard, never steps wrong in the title role....It is Pelle, not Lasse, who is really at the center of the movie, which begins when he follows his father's dream, and ends as he realizes he must follow his own." – Roger Ebert, *RogerEbert.com*



SYNOPSIS

Lasse (Max von Sydow), an elderly and widowed farmer, and his young son Pelle join a boat-load of immigrants to escape from impoverished rural Sweden to Denmark's Baltic island of Bornholm. It is ultimately their loving relationship which sustains them through a difficult year on a new farm. **PELLE THE CONQUEROR** won the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film 1989, the [Palme d'Or](#) at the 1988 Cannes Film Festival and the Golden Globe Award for Best Foreign Language Film. It was listed in *The New York Times Guide to the Best 1000 Movies Ever Made*.

LOGLINE

Released for its 30th anniversary, this Oscar-winning tale follows a Swedish father and son escaping their impoverished life in hopes of finding a new start in Denmark.

CREDITS

CAST

Pelle	Pelle Hvenegaard
Lasse Karlsson	Max von Sydow
Erik	Björn Granath
Foreman	Erik Paaske
Mrs. Kongstrup	Astrid Villaume
Kongstrup	Axel Strøbye
Rud	Troels Asmussen
Anna	Kristina Törnqvist
Mrs. Olsen	Karen Wegener
Miss Sine	Sofie Gråbøl
Niels Køller	Lars Simonsen
Ole Køller	Buster Larsen

CREW

Director	Bille August
Screenplay	Bille August Per Olov Enquist Bjarne Reuter Based on a novel by Martin Andersen Nexø
Producer	Per Holst
Cinematography	Jörgen Persson
Editor	Janus Billeskov Jansen
Makeup	Kaj Grönberg
Assistant Director	Tove Berg
Music	Stefan Nilsson
Production Design	Anna Asp
Production Manager	Lars Kolvig
Costume Design	Kicki Ilander

AWARDS & NOMINATIONS

Winner, Palme d'Or – **Cannes Film Festival 1988**

Winner, Best Foreign Language Film – **Academy Awards 1989**

Nominated, Best Actor in a Leading Role – Max von Sydow – **Academy Awards 1989**

Winner, Best Foreign Language Film – **Golden Globes 1989**

Winner, Best Actor – Max von Sydow – **European Film Awards 1988**

Winner, Best Young Actor – Pelle Hvenegaard – **European Film Awards 1988**

DIRECTOR'S BIO – Bille August

Director and screenwriter, Bille August was born November 9, 1948 in Drede, Denmark. He began his career training as a cinematographer and photographer in Stockholm before attending the National Film School of Denmark, from where he graduated in cinematography in 1973.

August's international breakthrough came with *PELLE THE CONQUEROR*, which received the Palme d'Or at Cannes in 1988 and an Oscar and a Golden Globe in 1989. August received his second Palme d'Or in 1992 for the Swedish production *THE BEST INTENTIONS*, written by Ingmar Bergman, making him one of only eight directors to have won the award twice.

August directed three award-winning films for children and youth in the '80s: *ZAPPA* (1983), *THE WORLD OF BUSTER* (1984) and *TWIST AND SHOUT* (1984). Since the early '90s August has directed a string of big international co-productions, including *THE HOUSE OF THE SPIRITS*, *SMILLA'S SENSE OF SNOW*, *LES MISERABLES*, *RETURN TO SENDER*, *GOODBYE BAFANA* and *NIGHT TRAIN TO LISBON*.

Apart from his numerous film awards, Bille August has been honored for his work as a film director with both the Danish and the Swedish Royal Order of Chivalry and the French title of Chevalier *Dans L'ordre des Arts et Lettres*.

Filmography

1978 – *IN MY LIFE*

1980 – *VERDEN ER SÅ STOR, SÅ STOR* (TV film)

1982 – *MAJ* (TV film)

1983 – *ZAPPA*

1984 – *TWIST AND SHOUT*

1984 – *THE WORLD OF BUSTER*

1987 – *PELLE THE CONQUEROR*

1992 – *THE BEST INTENTIONS*

1993 – *THE HOUSE OF THE SPIRITS*

1996 – *JERUSALEM*

1997 – *SMILLA'S SENSE OF SNOW*

1998 – *LES MISERABLES*

1999 – *THE ADVENTURES OF YOUNG INDIANA JONES: TALES OF INNOCENCE* (TV film)

1999 – *ET MÆLKEBØTTEBARN* (TV documentary)

2001 – *A SONG FOR MARTIN*

2005 – *CLOWN* (TV series)

2007 – *THE ADVENTURES OF YOUNG INDIANA JONES: THE PERILS OF CUPID* (TV film)

2007 – *GOODBYE BAFANA*

2012 – *MARIE KROYER*

2013 – *NIGHT TRAIN TO LISBON*

2014 – *SILENT HEART*



ACTOR'S BIO – Max von Sydow

Max von Sydow is a two-time Academy Award nominee, famous for his work in the films of



Ingmar Bergman – especially in *THE SEVENTH SEAL*, which includes the iconic scene where he plays chess with Death. He was born in 1929 in Lund, Sweden, and developed a passion for acting in high school, where he started a theatre club with fellow students, including actress Yvonne Lombard. After his conscription, he attended the Royal Dramatic Theatre's acting school. In his career he performed in a variety of roles including Karl Oskar Nilsson in *THE EMIGRANTS* (1971); Father Lankester Merrin in *THE*

EXORCIST (1973); Joubert, the assassin in *THREE DAYS OF THE CONDOR* (1975), Emperor Ming in *FLASH GORDON* (1980); the villain Ernst Stavro Blofeld in the James Bond film *NEVER SAY NEVER AGAIN* (1983); Liet-Kynes in *DUNE* (1984); the artist Frederick in *HANNAH AND HER SISTERS* (1986); Lassefar in *PELLE THE CONQUEROR* (1987), for which he received his first Academy Award nomination; Dr. Peter Ingham in *AWAKENINGS* (1990); Lamar Burgess in *MINORITY REPORT* (2002) and The Renter in *EXTREMELY LOUD AND INCREDIBLY CLOSE* (2011), which earned him his second Academy Award nomination. He remains one of Sweden's most admired actors and recipient of the Royal Foundation of Sweden's Cultural Award in 1954.

ACTOR'S BIO – Pelle Hvenegaard



Pelle Hvenegaard (born 29 August 1975 in Copenhagen, Denmark) is a Danish actor and writer, best known for his role in the award-winning film *PELLE THE CONQUEROR*. At age 11, director Bille August chose Hvenegaard to play the character he is named for (from the 1910 novel by Martin Andersen Nexø), after the crew auditioned 3,000 children. August decided on Hvenegaard, who he said demonstrated

concentration, patience and self-control. Pelle Hvenegaard won the Youth in Film Award, Best Foreign Actor in 1988 for his role in *PELLE THE CONQUEROR*. He is also known as an actor in the TV series *2900 HAPPINESS* (2007) and writer for *COMEDY FIGHT CLUB* (2007).

About Film Movement

Celebrating its 15th year in 2017, Film Movement is a North American distributor of award-winning independent and foreign films based in New York City. Film Movement has released more than 250 feature films and shorts culled from prestigious film festivals worldwide, and last year it had its first Academy Award-nominated film, *THEEB*. Film Movement's theatrical distribution strategy has evolved to include promising American independent films, documentaries, and an even stronger slate of foreign art house titles. In 2015, Film Movement launched its reissue label Film Movement Classics, featuring new restorations released theatrically as well as on Blu-ray and DVD, including films by such noted directors as Eric Rohmer, Peter Greenaway, Bille August, Marleen Gorris, Takeshi Kitano and Ettore Scola. For more information, please visit www.filmmovement.com.